



# Newsletter

Volume 61  
Issue No. 5  
October 18, 2019

## SAVE THE DATES:

The ICCS Calendar is also available online via

[mycountyparks.org](http://mycountyparks.org)

- \* Oct. 23 – Dist. 1 Mtg. – Webster CCB
- \* Oct. 29 – ICCS New Employee School – D.M.\*
- \* Nov. 6-8 – Fall IAN \* Workshop – Hamilton CCB
- \* Nov. 9 – Friends of Cons. Summit – Polk County \*
- \* Nov. 19 – ICCS Board of Directors – Des Moines
- \* Nov. 21 – Dist. 4 Mtg. – Fremont CCB
- \* Dec. 3 – 2019 E-Commerce Summit – Jester Park \*
- \* Dec. 18 – Dist. 3 Mtg. – O'Brien CCB
- \* Dec. 18 – Dist. 6 Mtg. – TBA
- \* Jan. 28-30 – Winterfest 2020 in Coralville \*
- \* Mar. 2-4 – Iowa Tourism Conference – Des Moines

(\*Online Registration currently available)



**2020 ICCS**  
**65th Anniversary**  
**Fall Conference**  
**September 16-18, 2020**

Ames, IA



#REAPworks



### 2019 NEW CCB EMPLOYEE SCHOOL

Event: 10/29/2019 - 10/29/2019  
Registration From: 08/01/2019 - 10/25/2019

ALL NEW EMPLOYEES, who have not attended from the past couple of years will surely want to be here!



### WINTERFEST 2020 - COLLEGIATE REGISTRATION

Event: 01/28/2020 - 01/29/2020  
Registration From: 09/01/2019 - 01/18/2020

(For College Student & Accompanying Faculty ONLY) WINTERFEST 2020 - your BEST opportunity for an hands down! Join us in January 2020!



### FALL IAN - Hamilton and Webster County - No Boundries

Event: 11/06/2019 - 11/08/2019  
Registration From: 09/16/2019 - 11/01/2019

As naturalist we break boundaries and create working relationships with many different naturalist, counties theme. This workshop shows new and unique ways to create boundaries that can help you in your job. Has different Offsite and Extended learning sessions and 15 different session through out November 6th - 8th. I today!



### FRIENDS OF CONSERVATION SUMMIT

Event: 11/09/2019 - 11/09/2019  
Registration From: 09/17/2019 - 11/01/2019

Has your Friends group been doing amazing things for many years? Is your Friends group just starting out the some next steps to grow? Whether they are called Friends, a Foundation, an Advisory Board or The support group!



### WINTERFEST 2020 - EMPLOYEE REGISTRATION

Event: 01/28/2020 - 01/30/2020  
Registration From: 10/10/2019 - 01/17/2020

The absolute best annual networking and educational event created by County Conservation Employees for January for WINTERFEST 2020 in Coralville - looking forward to seeing you all there!



### WINTERFEST 2020 - VENDOR REGISTRATION

Event: 01/28/2020 - 01/30/2020  
Registration From: 07/30/2019 - 01/10/2020

WINTERFEST 2020 EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES - connecting businesses and service providers with it us in Coralville for one of our best networking opportunities of the year!



### E-COMMERCE SUMMIT 2019

Event: 12/03/2019 - 12/03/2019  
Registration From: 10/15/2019 - 11/29/2019

The Annual MyCountyParks.com E-Commerce Summit is developed with input from the MCPM Advisor MyCountyParks.com at no cost to participants. The 35 CCBs that are currently providing online reservations/re this workshop, as well as those counties that are implementing or considering these reservation options in benefit from E-Commerce services!

Items as we attempt to streamline the process for the Employees, College Students and our Vendors. Please feel free to share links to these registration opportunities with connections you may have with that may wish to exhibit at Winterfest or consider a sponsorship for the event. Looking forward to a bigger and better event than ever! Hoping to be seeing you all there in January! ☺

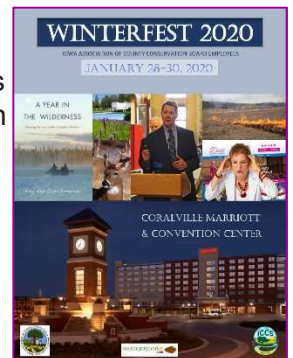
**ALL IN ONE PLACE:** <https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/Default.aspx>

## REGISTRATIONS A-GO-GO!

We certainly are giving our new **online event registration system** a workout this month with no less than SEVEN organizational events listed for registration! We hope that each of you have the opportunity to attend one or more of these great events and support all the efforts that have come together to make them happen!

Some of the registration deadlines are looming quite quickly – so be sure to get after it as soon as you can. Please be sure to submit the registrations through the system so that you get entered in the databases. We have had a couple send in screen shots of what they filled out – which ARE NOT official registrations as you are not counted. (This is US, your peers – we are not going to share your email address!) Just follow the specific instructions for each event, and you'll be all squared away...**Thanks!** ☺

You will note that **Winterfest '20** garners three of the registration



And they look great when framed in black!

[IACCB@mycountyparks.org](mailto:IACCB@mycountyparks.org)

(515) 963-9582

[mycountyparks.com](http://mycountyparks.com)

## ICCS Board Member/Staff Recognition Certificates

As we approach the end of a calendar year, you may have Conservation Board Members that will be concluding their terms of service, OR – you may have an employee that reaches a milestone or is retiring, etc. Just a reminder that ICCS provides certificates on parchment paper at no cost upon request. If you would prefer to have a digital template – we can send that along too! Please plan ahead if you are requesting them from ICCS, 3 to 4+ weeks advance notice is appreciated. This allows time to print and mail them amongst a busy travel schedule, etc. THX!



## ICCS Buy, Sell or Trade ☺



**WINNEBAGO CCB** - 2008 Champion Auto-FlightMaster ATA II trap thrower for sale. Used by our 4-H and High School Trap teams. Comes with BRB Voice Activated Release System and hard-wired release. Just replaced flight rail, target finger and spring. 97,000 targets on counter. Will consider offers. See photo. Call or email for more information. 641-565-3390. [rschwartz@winnebagoccb.com](mailto:rschwartz@winnebagoccb.com)



**POLK CCB** - Polk County Conservation has 4 law Enforcement light bars that are no longer needed. They are all LED and were in good working order when they were removed. Further details are available by contacting David Weidt 515-249-3229



## FY2019 IWLA Wildlife Habitat Improvement Award Winners

**ICCS**, in partnership with the **Iowa Division of the Izaak Walton League of America** was pleased to honor the FY2019 recipients at the ICCS Annual Meeting in Muscatine on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Marion and Marj Striegle were on hand once again from the IWLA to present these awards. (pictured in center above) Category winners (CCB and representatives) are as follows and pictured above:

### Counties w/Population Less than 20,000

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Dickinson CCB / Lee Sorenson

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Worth CCB / Jim Hanson

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** – Kossuth CCB / Kendall Stumme

### Counties w/Population Greater than 20,000

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Linn CCB / Dennis Goemaat

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Story CCB / Ryan Wiemold

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** – Polk CCB / Doug Romig

**CONGRATS to these winners, and THANKS to the 17 CCBs that were nominated for this recognition!**

## GOT BARN OWL BOXES?

**Anna Buckhardt Thomas** is the new Avian Ecologist for the Iowa DNR. Many of you may have known/worked with Bruce Ehresman who held the position before her. Bruce made a large effort to increase Barn Owl populations in Iowa by installing Barn Owl nest boxes on public land throughout the state. Anna is interested in monitoring the use of the boxes in order to quantify the success of the DNR's efforts and to inform future barn owl conservation. Her first challenge is to locate all of the boxes. Bruce had worked with some County Conservation Boards to put boxes on their properties, but records are somewhat sketchy. Anna is hoping to create a robust monitoring program for as many nest boxes as possible, and further hoping to partner with County Conservation to increase the number of boxes included in this monitoring effort ☺

### A brief overview of what would be asked from CCB partners:

1. Coordinates of the locations of any Barn Owl boxes on CCB land
2. The year the box was installed (if known)
3. Help monitoring the boxes by visiting each box three times between May and July each year (She would be sure to share a more detailed protocol with any CCB partners helping with this). Each box check should take no more than 10 minutes. If CCBs have boxes but are not able to help with monitoring, Anna would still appreciate knowing where the boxes are and may be able to help with the box checks. **CONTACT:** [anna.buckhardt@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:anna.buckhardt@dnr.iowa.gov) / (515) 823-3945

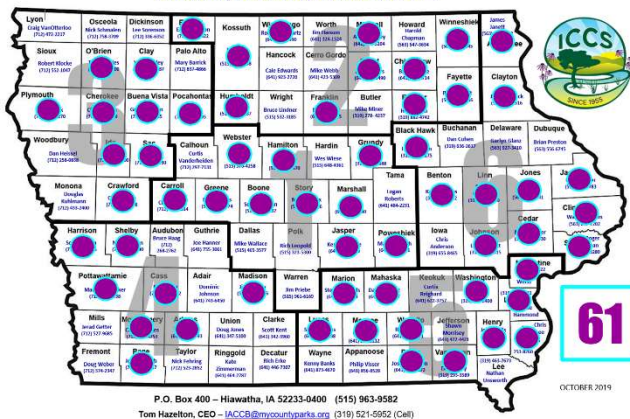


## IOWA WILDLIFE HABITAT STAMP GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The "landscape has changed" slightly in the way that CCBs should craft applications for Habitat Stamp Grant funding in the future. Additional funds have become available – but ARE NOT available for land acquisition. All CCB Directors have previously received this information, but we also wish to share with everyone these two documents from the **Wildlife Habitat Stamp Review & Selection Committee**. One is a memo to all Directors, and the other is a copy of **grant writing guidelines for this program** that were updated this past summer. These documents are posted on the **CCDA page** at [MyCountyParks.org](http://MyCountyParks.org) via the following link –

**LINK:** <https://www.mycountyparks.org/ccda.html>

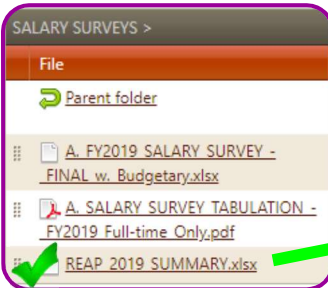




## FY2020 ICCS SALARY SURVEY DEADLINE – OCT. 25<sup>th</sup>

The ICCS **FY2020 Salary Survey** was distributed to all CCB Directors on October 7<sup>th</sup>. In the first 11 days, we are pleased to have 61 returned – AWESOME! (**ONLY 38 TO GO!**) It is important for this particular annual survey that we have 100% participation. We are already hearing that various counties have moved up the schedule for their FY2021 budgeting processes, and the results of this survey are important to CCBs for this process. **DEADLINE IS OCT. 25<sup>th</sup> to get this survey returned!!!** Please let me know if you need another copy to update – you have less than a week to complete this! 😊

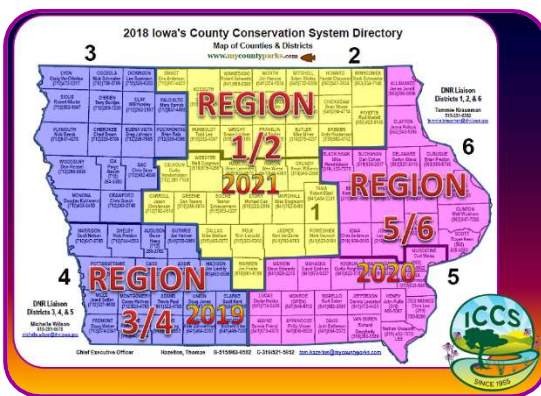
We have also fielded a few calls about **levy amounts** for CCBs. The newest edition we have is dated Feb. 2019 and can be found in **SALARY SURVEYS** file in the Portal as the **REAP 2019 SUMMARY**. (The 2020 edition will be available from the FY2019 REAP Certification Reports early in 2020)



County	Net Expenditures	Net Revenues	Prop Tax Sup.	Assess Val.	Levy/1000	2010 Pop.
Adair	383988.03	91930.22	292057.81	480088981	0.47948	7682
Adams	443638.53	326113.73	117524.8	266243484	0.66004	4029
Allamakee	273000.55	1943.21	271057.34	682903363	0.26757	14330
Appanoose	232327.98	53546.75	178781.23	379695960	0.32581	12887
Audubon	399022.28	88686.45	310335.83	345306886	0.96216	6119
Benton	835377.05	171688.83	663688.22	1205079318	0.48198	26076

## BEST PRACTICE INQUIRIES to your Inbox?

Since the 2013 launch of the **IACCB Portal**, there have been 320 entries in the **Best Practices System**. We have already had 46 so far in 2019 – a pace of more than one per week! Once submitted, each inquiry is reviewed and then distributed via email to all CCB Directors and participating staff. If you would like to be added to this distribution list – simply send along an email including your request to [IACCB@MyCountyParks.org](mailto:IACCB@MyCountyParks.org). As a reminder, this expanding database of CCB knowledge is searchable via a built-in keyword search engine. Over the past six years – someone may have already asked the question you are thinking about? We encourage you to respond to these inquiries and share your knowledge AND attachments in order to bolster the volume of information available to everyone in the CCB system. As always – **THANKS for your participation!!** 😊



## REGIONAL BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES

The ICCS Board of Directors is currently seeking a County Conservation **Board Member** to serve on the State Board of Directors representing the Western Iowa Region consisting of Districts 3 & 4 (see map). In 2020, we will be needing a Board Member to step up from the Eastern Iowa Region of Districts 5 & 6. The ICCS Board of Directors meets 5 times a year – four quarterly meetings (*at least two of these are electronic via ZOOM, and the other two in-person meetings are held in Des Moines*); and, the Annual Meeting that is held in conjunction with the ICCS Annual Conference. Any Board Member that may be interested is invited to **contact Tom Hazelton** for additional information or an application form. Tom can be reached by email at [IACCB@mycountyparks.org](mailto:IACCB@mycountyparks.org) or by calling (515) 963-9582 ....Thanks!

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN 2020!

### CCB ALUMNI ALERT!!

There are two milestone anniversaries of note for 2020 – and the dates are already on the calendars! ICCS will be celebrating the **65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of County Conservation in Iowa** during the **2020 ICCS Fall Conference in Ames on September 16-18**; and **CCPOA will celebrate 35 years** with a **reception and banquet on October 5<sup>th</sup> in Des Moines**. CCB Alumni are welcome to attend either of these events, and should mark their calendars and look forward to registration and other information in mid-2020....*hoping to see many of you at one or both of these celebratory gatherings!* 😊



# REAP Assemblies Scheduled for Late Nov./Early Dec. !!

**INFORMATION JUST AVAILABLE – 10/18/19!!** Please review the dates and locations for the **2019 REAP Assemblies** listed below – all commence at 6:30 PM. All CCB employees and Board Members are encouraged to participate in these public participation portions of the REAP program. 12 of the 18 locations are CCB facilities – a shining example of what REAP has meant to our programs for decades. The date for REAP Congress will be released this next week. *In past REAP Congresses – 25-35% of the delegates were from CCBs.*



## 2019 REAP Assembly Schedule

6:30-8:00 Assembly

This **REAP Assembly Schedule** is also available via the REAP link on the bottom of any page on our [MyCountyParks.com](http://MyCountyParks.com) website 😊

CITY	DATE	ASSEMBLY LOCATION	COUNTIES IN REGION
Calmar	11/18/19	<b>Dairy Center</b> 1527 Hwy 150 South, Calmar, IA 52132	REGION 1: Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette, Howard, Winneshiek
Carroll	11/18/19	<b>Conserv. Center at Swan Lake State Park</b> 22676 Swan Lake Dr, Carroll, IA 51401	REGION 12: Audubon, Carroll, Crawford, Greene, Guthrie, Sac
Afton	11/19/19	<b>Three Mile Lake Lodge</b> 1542 Campground Road, Afton, IA 50830	REGION 14: Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Madison, Ringgold, Taylor, Union
Maquoketa	11/19/19	<b>Hurstville Interpretive Center</b> 18670 63 <sup>rd</sup> St., Maquoketa, Iowa 52060	REGION 8: Cedar, Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson
Burlington	11/20/19	<b>Star's Cave Nature Center</b> 11627 Star's Cave Road, Burlington, IA 52601	REGION 16: Des Moines, Henry, Lee, Louisa
Webster City	11/20/19	<b>Briggs Woods Main Office</b> 2490 Briggs Woods Trail, Webster City, IA 50595	REGION 5: Calhoun, Hamilton, Humboldt, Pocahontas, Webster, Wright
Chariton	11/20/19	<b>Pin Oak Lodge</b> 45996 Hwy. 14 Chariton, IA 50049	REGION 18: Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe, Wayne
Oxford	11/21/19	<b>Kent Park, Conservation Center</b> 2048 US 6, Oxford, IA 52322	REGION 10: Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Washington
Oskaloosa	11/21/19	<b>Environmental Learning Center</b> 2342 Hwy 92 East, Oskaloosa IA 52577	REGION 15: Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk, Mahaska, Van Buren, Wapello
Marshalltown	12/2/19	<b>Grimes Farm - Conservation Center</b> 2349 233 <sup>rd</sup> St., Marshalltown, IA 50158	REGION 6: Hardin, Marshall, Poweshiek, Tama
Correctionville	12/2/19	<b>Correctionville Community Center</b> 312 Driftwood St., Correctionville, IA 51016	REGION 4: Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth, Woodbury
Spencer	12/3/19	<b>Clay County Regional Events Center</b> 800 W. 18 <sup>th</sup> St., Spencer, IA 51301	REGION 3: Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Lyon, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Sioux
Neola	12/3/19	<b>Breezy Lodge - Hitchcock Nature Center</b> 39357 310th Street, Neola, IA 51559	REGION 17: Pottawattamie, Harrison, Shelby, Cass
Cedar Falls	12/4/19	<b>Hartman Reserve Nature Center</b> 657 Reserve Dr, Cedar Falls, IA 50613	REGION 7: Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Chickasaw, Grundy
Muscatine	12/4/19	<b>Nature Center</b> 3300 Cedar St, Muscatine, IA 52761	REGION 9: Muscatine, Scott
West Des Moines	12/5/19	<b>Raccoon River Park</b> 2500 Grand Ave, West Des Moines, IA 50265	REGION 11: Boone, Dallas, Jasper, Marion, Polk, Story, Warren
Ventura	12/5/19	<b>Ventura Community Center</b> 4 North Weimer Street, Ventura, IA 50482	REGION 2: Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth
Shenandoah	12/5/19	<b>Public Library Auditorium</b> 201 S Elm St, Shenandoah, IA 51601	REGION 13: Fremont, Mills Montgomery, Page

**For more information visit: [www.iowareap.com](http://www.iowareap.com)**



## 2019 ANNUAL MyCountyParks.com E-COMMERCE SUMMIT

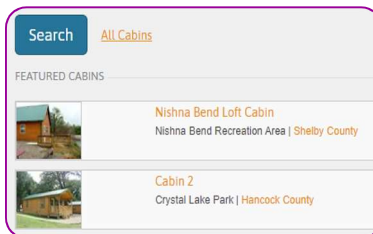
**DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup> – Jester Park Nature Center, Polk County**

2020 will be a momentous year for our MyCountyParks.com website by virtue of a significant infusion of development funding from both ICCS and revenues generated from the website. A portion of this annual training is devoted to various updates about the website, and what you can expect from these improvements in the upcoming year. The list is long, and also includes the construction of new "Guest Check-Out" functionality for our customers - long requested by numerous county administrators ☺

We will also be providing several "round-robin" sessions on various website-related topics that participants can drop in and out of - including one for CCBs that are considering E-commerce or have just started. (*Tentative topics include: Facility Amenities, Managing Campsite Reservations, Deposits & Fee Structures, Mentoring Network (Peer Support), Your Customer Invoices & Others*) This event is FREE to all participants – registration required!

**ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE VIA LINK BELOW:**

<https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/23/E-COMMERCE-SUMMIT-2019.aspx>



## Life Along the Mississippi River

60<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Conference of Iowa's CCB System

## A PICTORIAL EPILOGUE

September 17-19, Muscatine & Louisa Counties

Iowa's County Conservation System



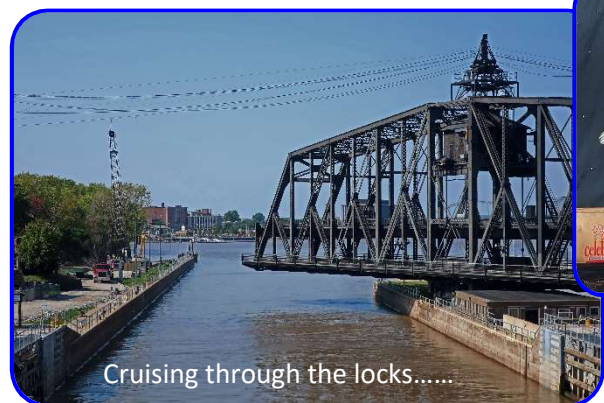
Sunshine over the Mississippi for breakfast



Top deck had the most awesome views



Some pre-conference golf!



Cruising through the locks.....



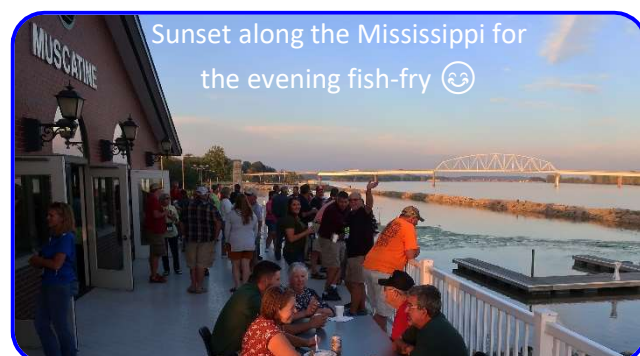
"This is a Fish 101" by Denny Weiss on board the Celebration Belle



Passing under the bridge construction



Disembarking following a grrreat day on America's River.....



Sunset along the Mississippi for the evening fish-fry ☺





All the troops from Harrison County



Sunshine for breakfast in the hotel penthouse ballroom.



Silent auction bidding got a bit intense – raising more than \$2,500! 😊

Many **THANKS** to each of our conference sponsors that made all the special features of this conference possible for 2019!!



ICCS Board of Directors gets in to the 2020 VISION theme with the glasses 😊



Story CCB looks forward to hosting us in 2020!



Mike Cox, Story CCB invites everyone to their 2020 VISION!

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## JOBS

10/18/2019

<http://www.mycountyparks.com/Jobs/Default.aspx>

1. GUTHRIE Co. – Director
2. HOWARD Co. – Director
3. POLK Co. – Conservation Park Ranger
4. CLAY Co. – Office Manager
5. JEFFERSON Co. – Park Technician
6. SEASONAL POSITIONS – 3 opportunities listed on website

■ Full Time  
■ Seasonal/Part-Time

mycountyparks.com

